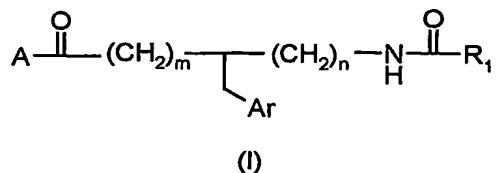


CLAIMS

1. A compound of structural formula (I):

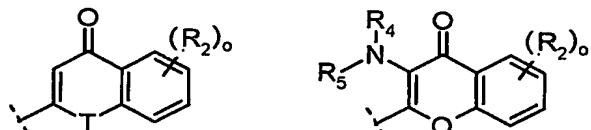


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a solvate thereof, wherein

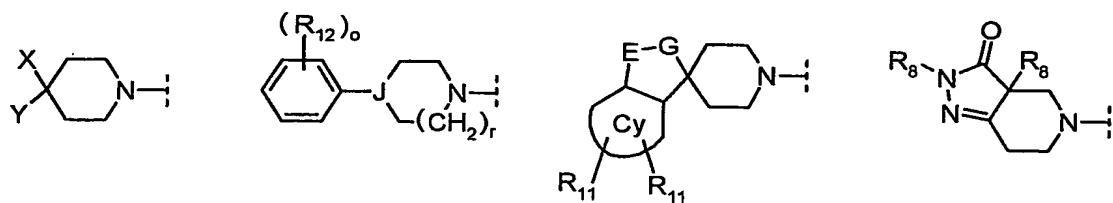
Aris:

aryl or heteroaryl which may both be substituted:

R_1 is:



A is:



R_2 is independently:

hydrogen,

halo,

alkyl,

haloalkyl,

hydroxy,

alkoxy,

S-alkyl,
SO₂-alkyl,
O-alkenyl,
S-alkenyl,
NR₁₄C(O)R₁₄,
NR₁₄SO₂R₁₄,
N(R₁₄)₂,
(D)-cycloalkyl,
(D)-aryl,
(D)-heteroaryl,
(D)-heterocyclyl (wherein heterocyclyl excludes a heterocyclyl containing a single nitrogen), and
wherein aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, alkyl and cycloalkyl are substituted or unsubstituted, and two adjacent R₂ may form a 4- to 7-membered ring;

R₄ and R₅ are each independently:

hydrogen,
alkyl or
(D)-cycloalkyl, or
R₄ and R₅ together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 5- to 8-membered ring,
wherein alkyl and cycloalkyl are unsubstituted or substituted;

R₈ is independently:

hydrogen,
alkyl,
(D)-aryl or
(D)-cycloalkyl;

R₉ is independently:

hydrogen,
alkyl,
(D)-aryl,

(D)-heteroaryl or
(D)-cycloalkyl;

R₁₀ is independently:

R₉,
(D)-heterocyclyl,
(D)-N(Y)₂,
(D)-NH-heteroaryl or
(D)-NH-heterocyclyl,
wherein aryl, heteroaryl, alkyl, D, cycloalkyl and heterocyclyl are substituted or unsubstituted, or
two R₁₀ groups together with the atoms to which they are attached form a 5- to 8-membered mono- or bi-cyclic ring system;

R₁₁ is:

hydrogen,
halo,
alkyl,
alkoxy,
C≡N,
CF₃ or
OCF₃;

R₁₂ is independently:

hydrogen,
hydroxy,
cyano,
nitro,
halo,
alkyl,
alkoxy,
haloalkyl,
(D)-C(O)R₁₄,

(D)-C(O)OR₁₄,
(D)-C(O)SR₁₄,
(D)-C(O)-heteroaryl,
(D)-C(O)-heterocyclyl,
(D)-C(O)N(R₁₄)₂,
(D)-N(R₁₄)₂,
(D)-NR₁₄COR₁₄,
(D)-NR₁₄CON(R₁₄)₂,
(D)-NR₁₄C(O)OR₁₄,
(D)-NR₁₄C(R₁₄)=N(R₁₄),
(D)-NR₁₄C(=NR₁₄)N(R₁₄)₂,
(D)-NR₁₄SO₂R₁₄,
(D)-NR₁₄SO₂N(R₁₄)₂,
(D)-NR₁₄(D)-heterocyclyl,
(D)-NR₁₄(D)-heteroaryl,
(D)-OR₁₄,
OSO₂R₁₄,
(D)-[O]_q(cycloalkyl),
(D)-[O]_q(D)aryl,
(D)-[O]_q(D)-heteroaryl,
(D)-[O]_q(D)-heterocyclyl (wherein heterocyclyl excludes a heterocyclyl containing a single nitrogen when q=1),
(D)-SR₁₄,
(D)-SOR₁₄,
(D)-SO₂R₁₄ or
(D)-SO₂N(R₁₄)₂,
wherein alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl and heteroaryl are substituted or unsubstituted;

R₁₄ is independently:

hydrogen,
alkyl,
haloalkyl,

(D)-cycloalkyl,
(D)-phenyl,
(D)-naphthyl,
(D)-heteroaryl,
(D)-heterocyclyl (wherein heterocyclyl excludes a heterocyclyl containing a single nitrogen), and
wherein phenyl, naphthyl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, alkyl and cycloalkyl are substituted or unsubstituted;

X is:

alkyl,
(D)-cycloalkyl,
(D)-aryl,
(D)-heteroaryl,
(D)-heterocyclyl,
(D)-C≡N,
(D)-CON(R₉R₉),
(D)-CO₂R₉,
(D)-COR₉,
(D)-NR₉C(O)R₉,
(D)-NR₉CO₂R₉,
(D)-NR₉C(O)N(R₉)₂,
(D)-NR₉SO₂R₉,
(D)-S(O)_pR₉,
(D)-SO₂N(R₉)(R₉),
(D)-OR₉,
(D)-OC(O)R₉,
(D)-OC(O)OR₉,
(D)-OC(O)N(R₉)₂,
(D)-N(R₉)(R₉) or
(D)-NR₉SO₂N(R₉)(R₉),

wherein aryl, heteroaryl, alkyl, D, cycloalkyl and heterocyclyl are unsubstituted or substituted;

Y is:

hydrogen,
alkyl,
(D)-cycloalkyl,
(D)-aryl,
(D)-heterocyclyl or
(D)-heteroaryl,
wherein aryl, heteroaryl, alkyl, D and cycloalkyl are unsubstituted or substituted;

Cy is benzene, pyridine or cyclohexane;

D is a bond or alkylene;

E is CHCO_2Y , CHC(O)N(Y)_2 , $\text{NSO}_2\text{R}_{10}$, CHN(Y)COR_{10} , $\text{CHN(Y)SO}_2\text{R}_{10}$, CHCH_2OY or $\text{CHCH}_2\text{heteroaryl}$;

G is D, CH-alkyl, O, C=O or SO_2 , with the proviso that when G is O, the ring atom E is carbon;

J is N or CH;

T is O or NR_4 ;

n is 0 - 2;

m is 0 - 2;

o is 0 - 3;

p is 0 - 2;

q is 0 or 1;

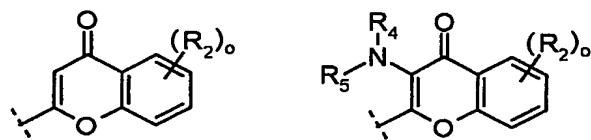
r is 1 or 2.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein

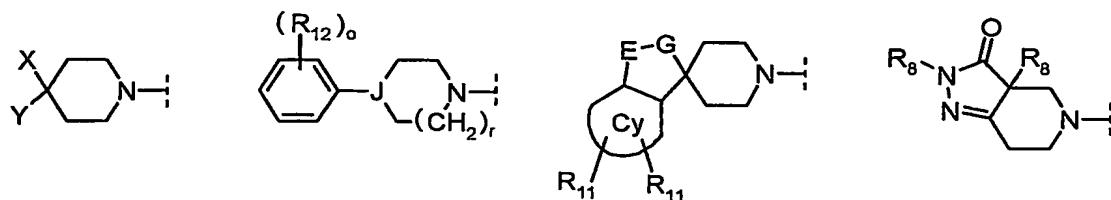
Ar is:

aryl which may be substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of cyano, nitro, perfluoroalkoxy, halo, alkyl, (D)-cycloalkyl, alkoxy and/or haloalkyl;

R₁ is:



A is:



R₂ is independently:

- hydrogen,
- hydroxy,
- halo,
- alkyl,
- alkoxy,
- S-alkyl,
- SO₂-alkyl,
- O-alkenyl,
- S-alkenyl,
- haloalkyl or
- (D)-cycloalkyl;

R₄ and R₅ are each independently:

hydrogen,
alkyl or
cycloalkyl, or

R₄ and R₅ together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 5- to 7-membered ring which may contain an additional heteroatom selected from O, S and NR₆;

R₆ is independently:

hydrogen,
alkyl,
C(O)alkyl,
(D)-aryl or
(D)-cycloalkyl;

R₈ is independently:

hydrogen,
alkyl or
(D)-aryl;

R₉ is independently:

hydrogen,
alkyl or
(D)-cycloalkyl;

R₁₀ is R₉;

R₁₁ is:

hydrogen,
halo,
alkyl,
alkoxy or
C≡N;

R₁₂ is independently:

- hydrogen,
- hydroxy,
- cyano,
- nitro,
- halo,
- alkyl,
- alkoxy,
- haloalkyl,
- (D)-C(O)-heterocycll,
- (D)-C(O)N(R₁₄)₂,
- (D)-N(R₁₄)₂,
- (D)-NR₁₄COR₁₄,
- (D)-NR₁₄CON(R₁₄)₂,
- (D)-NR₁₄C(O)OR₁₄,
- (D)-NR₁₄C(R₁₄)=N(R₁₄),
- (D)-NR₁₄C(=NR₁₄)N(R₁₄)₂,
- (D)-NR₁₄SO₂R₁₄ or
- (D)-NR₁₄SO₂N(R₁₄)₂;

R₁₄ is independently:

- hydrogen,
- halo,
- alkyl,
- (D)-cycloalkyl,
- alkoxy or
- phenyl;

X is:

- alkyl,
- (D)-cycloalkyl,
- (D)-aryl,

(D)-heteroaryl,
(D)-heterocyclyl,
(D)-NHC(O)R₉,
(D)-CO₂R₉ or
(D)-CON(R₉R₉);

Y is:

hydrogen,
alkyl,
(D)-cycloalkyl,
(D)-aryl,
(D)-heterocyclyl or
(D)-heteroaryl;

Cy is benzene or pyridine;

D is a bond or C₁ - C₄-alkylene;

E is NSO₂R₁₀, CHN(Y)COR₁₀ or CHN(Y)SO₂R₁₀;

G is D or CH-alkyl;

J is N or CH;

T is O or NR₄;

n is 0 or 1;

m is 0 or 1;

o is 0, 1 or 2;

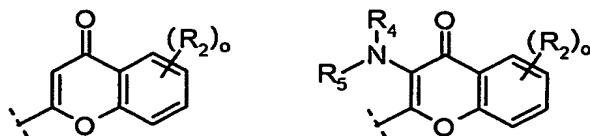
r is 1.

3. The compound of claim 1 or 2, wherein

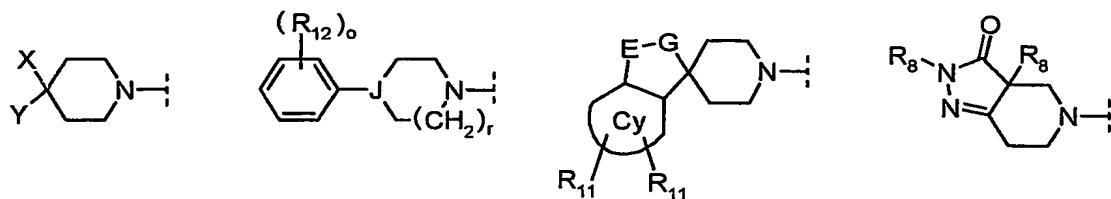
Ar is:

phenyl or naphthyl which may be substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of halo, alkyl, alkoxy and/or haloalkyl;

R_1 is:



A is:



R_2 is independently:

- hydrogen,
- hydroxy,
- alkoxy,
- S-alkyl,
- SO₂-alkyl,
- O-alkenyl,
- S-alkenyl,
- halo or
- alkyl;

R_4 and R_5 are each independently:

- hydrogen or
- alkyl, or

R_4 and R_5 together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 5- to 6-membered ring optionally containing an additional oxygen atom;

R_6 is hydrogen;

R_8 is independently:

alkyl or
(D)-aryl;

R₉ is alkyl;

R₁₀ is R₉;

R₁₁ is:

hydrogen,
halo and
C₁ - C₄-alkyl;

R₁₂ is independently:

cyano,
nitro,
halo,
alkyl,
(D)-C(O)-heterocyclyl,
(D)-N(R₁₄)₂,
(D)-NR₁₄COR₁₄,
(D)-NR₁₄CON(R₁₄)₂,
(D)-NR₁₄C(O)OR₁₄ or
(D)-NR₁₄SO₂R₁₄;

R₁₄ is independently:

hydrogen,
halo,
alkyl,
alkoxy or
phenyl;

X is:

alkyl

(D)-cycloalkyl,
(D)-heterocyclyl,
(D)-NHC(O)R₉ or
(D)-CON(R₉R₉);

Y is:

hydrogen,
alkyl,
(D)-cycloalkyl or
(D)-heterocyclyl;

Cy is benzene;

D is a bond or CH₂;

E is NSO₂R₁₀;

G is D;

J is N or CH;

T is O or NR₄;

n is 0;

m is 0;

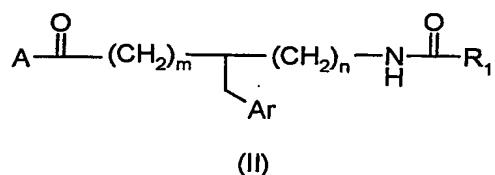
o is 0 or 1;

p is 0, 1 or 2;

q is 0 or 1;

r is 1.

4. A compound of structural formula (II):

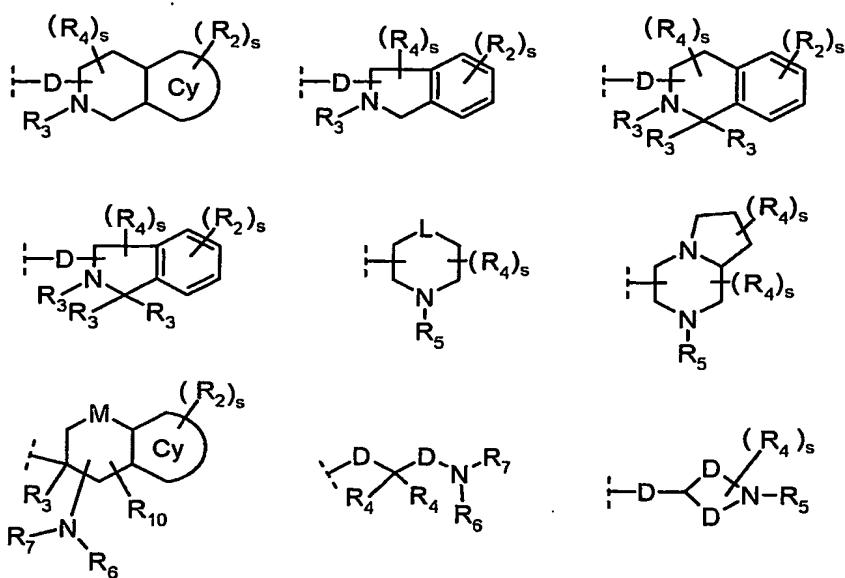


or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or a solvate thereof, wherein

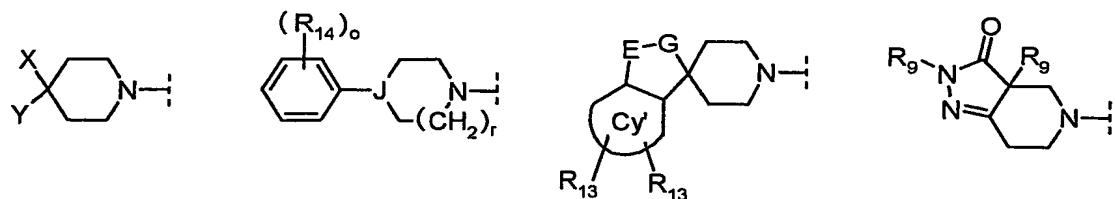
Ar is:

aryl or heteroaryl which may both be substituted;

R₁ is:



A is:



R₂ is independently:

- hydrogen,
- halo,
- alkyl,
- haloalkyl,
- (D)-cycloalkyl,
- (D)-aryl,
- (D)-heteroaryl,

(D)-heterocyclyl (wherein heterocyclyl excludes a heterocyclyl containing a single nitrogen), and

wherein aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, alkyl and cycloalkyl are substituted or unsubstituted;

R₃ is independently:

hydrogen,

alkyl,

SO₂alkyl,

SO₂aryl,

C(O)alkyl,

(D)-aryl or

cycloalkyl;

R₄ is independently:

hydrogen,

alkyl,

(D)-aryl,

(D)-heteroaryl,

(D)-N(R₆)₂,

(D)-NR₆C(O)alkyl,

(D)-NR₆SO₂alkyl,

(D)-SO₂N(R₆)₂,

(D)-(O)_valkyl,

(D)-(O)_v(D)NR₆COR₆,

(D)-(O)_v(D)NR₇SO₂R₇,

(D)-(O)_v-heterocyclyl or

(D)-(O)_v(alkyl)-heterocyclyl;

R₅ is independently:

hydrogen,

alkyl,

(D)-phenyl,

C(O)alkyl,

C(O)phenyl,

SO₂-alkyl or

SO₂-phenyl;

R₆ and R₇ are each independently:

hydrogen,

alkyl or

cycloalkyl, or

R₆ and R₇ together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 5- to 8-membered ring,

wherein alkyl and cycloalkyl are unsubstituted or substituted;

R₉ is independently:

hydrogen,

alkyl,

(D)-aryl or

cycloalkyl;

R₁₀ is hydrogen or alkyl;

R₁₁ is independently:

hydrogen,

alkyl,

(D)-aryl,

(D)-heteroaryl or

(D)-cycloalkyl;

R₁₂ is independently:

R₁₁,

(D)-heterocycll,

(D)-N(Y)₂,

(D)-NH-heteroaryl or

(D)-NH-heterocycll,

wherein aryl, heteroaryl, alkyl, D, cycloalkyl and heterocyclyl are unsubstituted or substituted, or

two R₁₂ groups together with the atoms to which they are attached form a 5- to 8-membered mono- or bicyclic ring system;

R₁₃ is:

hydrogen,

halo,

alkyl,

alkoxy,

C≡N,

CF₃ or

OCF₃;

R₁₄ is independently:

hydrogen,

hydroxy,

cyano,

nitro,

halo,

alkyl,

alkoxy,

haloalkyl,

(D)-C(O)R₁₆,

(D)-C(O)OR₁₆,

(D)-C(O)SR₁₆,

(D)-C(O)-heteroaryl,

(D)-C(O)-heterocyclyl,

(D)-C(O)N(R₁₆)₂,

(D)-N(R₁₆)₂,

(D)-NR₁₆COR₁₆,

(D)-NR₁₆CON(R₁₆)₂,

(D)-NR₁₆C(O)OR₁₆,

(D)-NR₁₆C(R₁₆)=N(R₁₆),
(D)-NR₁₆C(=NR₁₆)N(R₁₆)₂,
(D)-NR₁₆SO₂R₁₆,
(D)-NR₁₆SO₂N(R₁₆)₂,
(D)-NR₁₆(D)-heterocyclyl,
(D)-NR₁₆(D)-heteroaryl,
(D)-OR₁₆,
OSO₂R₁₆,
(D)-[O]_q(cycloalkyl),
(D)-[O]_q(D)aryl,
(D)-[O]_q(D)-heteroaryl,
(D)-[O]_q(D)-heterocyclyl (wherein heterocyclyl excludes a heterocyclyl containing a single nitrogen when q=1),
(D)-SR₁₆,
(D)-SOR₁₆,
(D)-SO₂R₁₆ or
(D)-SO₂N(R₁₆)₂,
wherein alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, aryl, heterocyclyl and heteroaryl are substituted or unsubstituted;

R₁₆ is independently:

hydrogen,
alkyl,
haloalkyl,
(D)-cycloalkyl,
(D)-aryl,
(D)-heteroaryl,
(D)-heterocyclyl (wherein heterocyclyl excludes a heterocyclyl containing a single nitrogen), and
wherein aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, alkyl and cycloalkyl are substituted or unsubstituted;

Cy is:

aryl,
heteroaryl,
heterocycl or
carbocycl;

X is:

alkyl,
(D)-cycloalkyl,
(D)-aryl,
(D)-heteroaryl,
(D)-heterocycl,
(D)-C≡N,
(D)-CON(R₁₁R₁₁),
(D)-CO₂R₁₁,
(D)-COR₁₁,
(D)-NR₁₁C(O)R₁₁,
(D)-NR₁₁CO₂R₁₁,
(D)-NR₁₁C(O)N(R₁₁)₂,
(D)-NR₁₁SO₂R₁₁,
(D)-S(O)_pR₁₁,
(D)-SO₂N(R₁₁)(R₁₁),
(D)-OR₁₁,
(D)-OC(O)R₁₁,
(D)-OC(O)OR₁₁,
(D)-OC(O)N(R₁₁)₂,
(D)-N(R₁₁)(R₁₁) or
(D)-NR₁₁SO₂N(R₁₁)(R₁₁),

wherein aryl, heteroaryl, alkyl, D, cycloalkyl and heterocycl are unsubstituted or substituted;

Y is:

hydrogen,
alkyl,
(D)-cycloalkyl,

(D)-aryl,
(D)-heterocycl or
(D)-heteroaryl,
wherein aryl, heteroaryl, alkyl, D and cycloalkyl are unsubstituted or substituted;

Cy' is benzene, pyridine or cyclohexane;

D is a bond or alkylene;

E is CHCO_2Y , CHC(O)N(Y)_2 , $\text{NSO}_2\text{R}_{10}$, CHN(Y)COR_{12} , $\text{CHN(Y)SO}_2\text{R}_{12}$, CHCH_2OY or $\text{CHCH}_2\text{heteroaryl}$;

G is D, CH-alkyl, O, C=O or SO₂ with the proviso that when G is O, the ring atom E is carbon;

J is N or CH;

L is O, S or NR₅;

M is a bond, O, S(O)_u, NR₅ or CH₂;

n is 0 - 2, unless m is 0, then n is 1 or 2;

m is 0 - 2, unless n is 0, then m is 1 or 2;

o is 0 - 3;

p is 0 - 2;

q is 0 or 1;

r is 1 or 2;

s is 0 - 5;

v is 0 or 1;

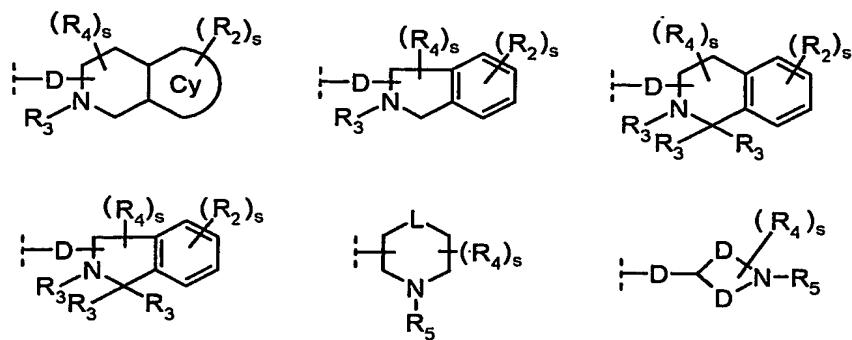
u is 0 - 2.

5. The compound according to claim 4, wherein

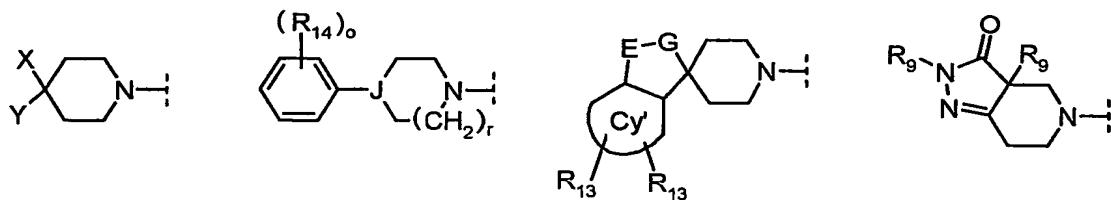
Ar is:

aryl which may be substituted with one to three substituents independently selected from the group consisting of cyano, nitro, perfluoroalkoxy, halo, alkyl, (D)-cycloalkyl, alkoxy and/or haloalkyl;

R₁ is:



A is:



R₂ is independently:

- hydrogen,
- halo,
- alkyl,
- haloalkyl,
- alkoxy or
- (D)-cycloalkyl;

R₃ is independently:

- hydrogen or
- alkyl;

R₄ is independently:

hydrogen,
alkyl,
(D)-aryl,
(D)-heteroaryl,
(D)-N(R₆)₂,
(D)-NR₆C(O)alkyl or
(D)-NR₆SO₂alkyl;

R₅ is independently:

hydrogen or
alkyl;

R₆ is independently:

hydrogen,
alkyl or
cycloalkyl;

R₉ is hydrogen, alkyl or (D)-aryl;

R₁₀ is hydrogen or C₁ - C₄ alkyl;

R₁₁ is independently:

hydrogen or
alkyl;

R₁₂ is:

hydrogen or
alkyl;

R₁₃ is:

hydrogen,
halo,

alkyl,
alkoxy or
 $\text{C}\equiv\text{N};$

R_{14} is independently:

hydrogen,
hydroxy,
cyano,
nitro,
halo,
alkyl,
alkoxy,
haloalkyl,
(D)-C(O)-heterocyclyl,
(D)-C(O)N(R_{16})₂,
(D)-N(R_{16})₂,
(D)-NR₁₆COR₁₆,
(D)-NR₁₆CON(R_{16})₂,
(D)-NR₁₆C(O)OR₁₆,
(D)-NR₁₆C(R_{16})=N(R_{16}),
(D)-NR₁₆C(=NR₁₆)N(R_{16})₂,
(D)-NR₁₆SO₂R₁₆ or
(D)-NR₁₆SO₂N(R_{16})₂;

R_{16} is:

hydrogen,
halo,
alkoxy,
alkyl,
(D)-cycloalkyl or
phenyl;

Cy is aryl;

X is:

alkyl,
(D)-cycloalkyl,
(D)-aryl,
(D)-heteroaryl,
(D)-heterocyclyl,
(D)-NHC(O)R₁₁,
(D)-CON(R₁₁R₁₁) or
(D)-CO₂R₁₁;

Y is:

hydrogen,
alkyl,
(D)-cycloalkyl,
(D)-aryl,
(D)-heterocyclyl or
(D)-heteroaryl;

Cy' is benzene or pyridine;

D is a bond or C₁ - C₄ alkylene;

E is NSO₂R₁₀, CHN(Y)COR₁₂ or CHN(Y)SO₂R₁₂;

G is D or CH alkyl;

J is CH or N;

L is NR₅;

M is a bond or CH₂;

n is 0 or 1, unless m is 0, then n is 1;

m is 0 or 1, unless n is 0, then m is 1;

o is 0, 1 or 2;

p is 0;

q is 0;

r is 1;

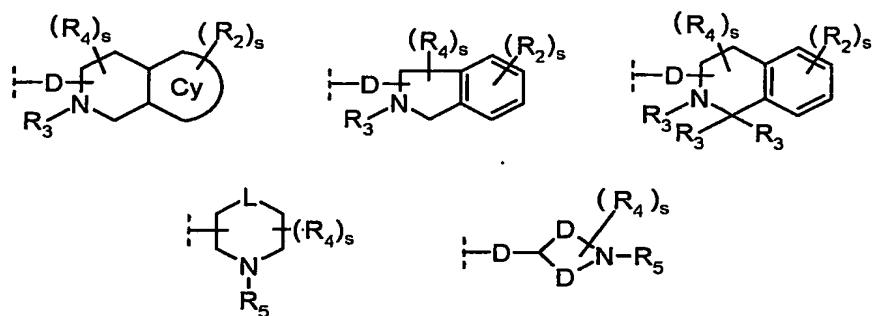
s is 0, 1, 2 or 3.

6. The compound according to claim 4 or 5, wherein

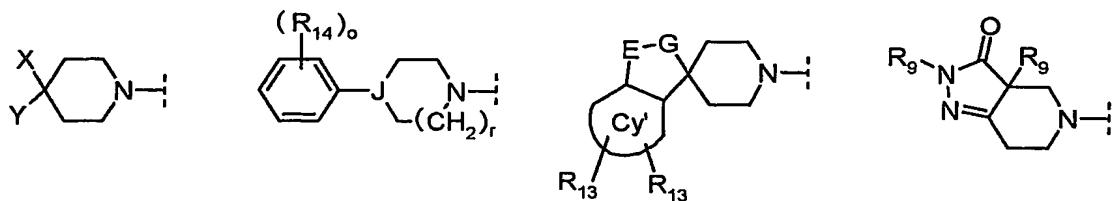
Ar is:

phenyl or naphthyl which may be substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of cyano, perfluoroalkoxy, halo, alkyl, (D)-cycloalkyl, alkoxy and/or haloalkyl;

R₁ is:



A is:



R₂ is:

hydrogen,
halo or
alkyl;

R₄ is hydrogen;

R₅ is hydrogen;

R₉ is independently:

hydrogen or
(D)-aryl;

R₁₀ is independently:

hydrogen,
methyl or
ethyl;

R₁₁ is independently:

hydrogen or
C₁ - C₆ alkyl;

R₁₃ is:

hydrogen,
methyl or
ethyl;

R₁₄ is independently:

cyano,
nitro,
halo,
alkyl,
(D)-C(O)-heterocyclyl,
(D)-C(O)N(R₁₆)₂,
(D)-N(R₁₆)₂,
(D)-NR₁₆COR₁₆,
(D)-NR₁₆CON(R₁₆)₂,
(D)-NR₁₆C(O)OR₁₆ or
(D)-NR₁₆SO₂R₁₆;

R₁₆ is independently:

hydrogen,

halo,
alkyl,
alkoxy or
phenyl;

Cy is benzene;

X is:

alkyl,
(D)-cycloalkyl,
(D)-heterocyclyl,
(D)-NHC(O)R₁₁ or
(D)-CON(R₁₁R₁₁);

Y is:

alkyl,
(D)-cycloalkyl or
(D)-heterocyclyl;

Cy' is benzene;

D is a bond or CH₂;

E is NSO₂R₁₀;

G is D;

J is CH or N;

L is NR₅;

n+m=1;

o is 1;

r is 1;

s is 0 or 1.

7. The compound of any of claims 1 to 6 for use as a medicament.

8. Use of the compound of any of claims 1 to 6 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of disorders, diseases or conditions responsive to the inactivation or activation of the melanocortin-4 receptor in a mammal.
9. Use according to claims 8 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of cancer cachexia.
10. Use according to claims 8 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of muscle wasting.
11. Use according to claims 8 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of anorexia.
12. Use according to claims 8 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of anxiety and/or depression.
13. Use according to claims 8 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of obesity.
14. Use according to claims 8 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of diabetes mellitus.
15. Use according to claims 8 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of male or female sexual dysfunction.

16. Use according to claims 8 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of erectile dysfunction.

17. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of any of claims 1 to 6 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.